

WASHINGTON, D.C. - Congressman Tim Ryan (D-Niles) announced today that the Labor, Health and Human Services Appropriations Bill, which has passed out of committee and now awaits approval by the House of Representatives, contains \$550,000 he secured for two local projects in the Mahoning Valley.

The **Rich Center for Autism at Youngstown State University** is slated to receive a \$350,000 earmark to help establish distance learning programs for professional development of teachers, medical staff, and others. It will also establish and implement a best practices program for distance learning, and develop off-site parental surveillance of classrooms of children with autism.

The **Pathway to Building Trades Program** would receive a \$200,000 earmark to provide opportunities for students in Youngstown City Schools and Warren City Schools by offering employment training, hands-on experience, classroom instruction, life skills training, and leadership skills, with an emphasis on skills needed for the building trades.

"These funds will help further our efforts to establish the Mahoning Valley as a place where technology, innovation, and education are encouraged and supported," said Congressman Ryan. "We will build on our recent progress by bringing quality, high-paying jobs to our area and ensuring that our workforce has the creativity, knowledge and expertise to succeed at those jobs.

